

Message Text

SECRET

PAGE 01 JAKART 05722 030241Z
ACTION SS-25

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SSO-00 /026 W
-----004070 030248Z /70
O 030225Z MAY 78
FM AMEMBASSY JAKARTA
TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 8500
AMEMBASSY MANILA IMMEDIATE

S E C R E T JAKARTA 5722

EXDIS FOR VICE PRESIDENT'S PARTY, PASS EA ASST SEC HOLBROOKE

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: OVIP (MONDALE, WALTER F.), ID
SUBJECT: VICE PRESIDENT'S TRIP: MEETING WITH INDONESIAN OPINION
LEADERS

REF: STATE 112129

1. KEY INDONESIANS HERE HAVE, AS OF COURSE EXPECTED, EXPRESSED SERIOUS RESERVATIONS ABOUT THE VICE PRESIDENT'S REQUEST TO MEET WITH PRIVATE OPINION LEADERS, INCLUDING SEVERAL ON THE OUTS WITH THE PRESENT GOVERNMENT. THIS CONCERN HAS BEEN CONVEYED TO ME BY SENIOR GOI OFFICIALS AND SEVERAL OF SUHARTO'S KEY ADVISORS. WE HAVE DISCUSSED THIS WITH MINISTER OF STATE SUDHARMONO (ONE OF SUHARTO'S CLOSEST CONFIDANTS), MINISTRY OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS OFFICIALS, VICE PRESIDENT MALIK'S IMMEDIATE STAFF, BAKIN, CSIS AND ALSO AMBASSADOR ASHARI. WE HAVE COVERED FULLY THE POINTS CONTAINED IN PARAGRAPH 3 OF REFTTEL, ADDING THE FACT THAT AS THE INDONESIANS ARE AWARE, THEY GAINED A GREAT DEAL OF GOODWILL AND IMPROVED UNDERSTANDING BY PERMITTING ASSISTANT SECRETARY DERIAN TO MEET WITH ALL SHADES OF INDONESIAN OPINION DURING HER VISIT LAST JANUARY. WE HAVE STRESSED THE FACT THAT WE ARE CONFIDENT THAT THE VICE PRESIDENT'S MEETING WITH A CROSS-SECTION OF OPINION LEADERS WOULD HAVE THE SAME BENEFICIAL EFFECT.

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2. WHILE THEY STILL ARE NOT HAPPY ABOUT THE MEETING, SENIOR LEVELS OF THE GOI ACCEPT IT. THIS INCLUDES AMBASSADOR ASHARI WHO, FOLLOWING OUR DISCUSSION, AGREED THAT THE MEETING SHOULD GO FORWARD.

3. ARIFIN'S APPROACH TO UNDERSECRETARY NEWSOM IS PROBABLY BASED ON WORD HE RECEIVED FROM ASHARI PRIOR TO OUR TALK HERE. IT

PROBABLY ALSO REFLECTS THE USUAL INDONESIAN TENDENCY TO MAKE
END-RUNS. I APPRECIATE THE FACT THAT IT WAS NOT ENCOURAGED.
MASTERS

SECRET

NNN

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